

RANGE OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHMS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is a method for representing a given range of numbers with a plurality of entries. It is determined whether one or more portions of the given range
5 are representable as one or more entries that utilize wildcards. If there are portions that are representable as entries having wildcards, such portions of the given range are then represented as one or more entries that utilize wildcards. All numbers of any remaining portions of the given range that are not representable as one or more entries that utilize wildcards are represented as entries that do not utilize wildcards. The
10 entries are optimized such that a minimum number of entries are used to represent the given range.